



CITY NEWS

Police Department
455 N. Main Wichita, KS 67202
(316) 268-4340 FAX (316) 268-4566
www.wichita.gov

DATE: August 26, 2005
CONTACT: Janet Johnson
Assistant to the Chief of Police
(316) 268-4340

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**** Media Advisory ****

Police Seek Volunteers for Parking Enforcement Program

Volunteers are being sought by the Wichita Police Department for the Accessible Parking Enforcement Program (Handicapped parking). Each volunteer will be asked to donate approximately six hours of their time monthly and will be responsible for conducting patrols in parking lots and photographing violations of the accessible parking ordinances.

Volunteers may request citations for displaying an expired handicapped placard, unauthorized parking in an accessible parking space, parking in an access aisle, or blocking an accessible parking space.

All volunteers will supervised by a law enforcement supervisor, and will appear and testify in court when requested by the City of Wichita Department of Law.

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It is critical to this program that volunteers promote accessible parking for people with disabilities, but just as importantly, serve as ambassadors for the City of Wichita, said Lt. Mitch Dunbar, WPD Community Affairs.

According to Lt. Dunbar, there are a number of requirements for potential volunteers. These include:

- 1. High School Graduate or GED**
- 2. Knowledge/Skill in understanding and applying accessible parking laws.**
- 3. Effective communication skills**
- 4. Capability to identify a vehicle that is eligible to park in a designated space.**
- 5. Ability to take photographs of violations.**
- 6. Ability to handle situations of stress and/or confrontations by the public**
- 7. Ability to attend court hearings as required.**
- 8. Must be at least 21 years of age.**
- 9. Must hold a valid Class "C" Driver's License**
- 10. Must provide own transportation and maintain at a minimum, a continuous liability insurance policy as required by state statute.**
- 11. Must be able to provide fuel for transportation while working as a volunteer.**
- 12. Must have a cell phone in their possession while working as a volunteer.**
- 13. Must have no prior convictions, and be able to pass a background investigation.**
- 14. Must have no history of mental instability, or competency issues.**
- 15. Must be able to write legible**
- 16. Cannot have more than two moving violation convictions, diversions, or being at fault in more than one accident during the preceding twelve months.**
- 17. Cannot have any convictions or diversions for any felony or misdemeanor crime(s).**
- 18. Must have the ability to donate at least six hours per month to the volunteer program.**

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Anyone interested in volunteering for the program should contact the Community Affairs Section at 268-4101 and make an appointment to fill out an application. After being selected, the participants will attend a three-hour training class before beginning their volunteer patrols.